

Dear Friends in Jesus Christ,

Are you a proud Catholic? If you are, what sign have you got to show to others? Do you believe that God loves you? Your answer could be Yes or No, but the Gospel of today is certain that God loves us; "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son..." Yes, Jesus Christ is the sign of God's unconditional love for us. This is the truth St. Paul reminded us in the last weekend-Jesus Christ is the wisdom of God. Last weekend, the Holy Mother Church was inviting us to rededicate ourselves to Christ, by accepting the mission statement of Jesus; "Repent and believe in the Gospel." The Gospel of today enlightens everyone, how we should rededicate ourselves to Christ; "...everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life." It is through our true faith we can rededicate ourselves to Christ.

The readings today make us very aware that we are all sinners, called to grow in faithfulness and love. In the Old Testament we see that God gave 10 commandments to the people of Israel through Moses, to make them wiser, to strengthen their relationship with God and to organize their social and religious life. But, the first reading gives us the sad history that God's people were unfaithful and finally taken from their own land into exile in Babylonia. The second reading speaks again about our human failings and God's mercy. Finally, the Gospel tells us that "God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him..." Yes, God wants to save us and the only way is to "repent and believe in the Gospel," an invitation to love like Jesus.

What is love? What is the biblical meaning of God's love? The Greek language has three different words for three different types of love, where as English has only one. In Greek we have (1) **Eros** meaning romantic love- the love between a man and a woman that leads to marriage, in this love we long to receive. (2) **Philia** meaning fellowship love- love for some people and things, which leads people to form a fan club. In this love we long to give and take. (3) **Agape** or sacrificial love- the love that makes a mother to risk her own life for her yet unborn child. In this love we long to give. Now, what kind of love does God has for us? God loves us with Agape or sacrificial love. "God loved the world so much that He gave." That is one big difference between God and us: God gives and forgives, we get and forget. Giving is a sign of agape. This is the kind of love we should have for one another. This is the kind of love that is lived in heaven.

A certain saint asked God to show her the difference between heaven and hell. So God sent an angel to take her, first to hell. There she saw men and women

seated around a large table with all kinds of delicious food. But none of them was eating. They were all sad. The saint asked one of them, "Why are you sad and not eating?" And he showed her his hand. A long spoon and fork is attached to their hands that they could not take the food to their mouth. "What a pity" said the saint. Then the angel took her to heaven. There the saint was surprised to find an identical setting as in hell: men and women sitting around a large table with all sorts of delicious food, and with a spoon and fork attached to their arms; but unlike in hell, the people here were happy and enjoying the food. "What!" said the saint to one of them, "How come you are happy in this condition?" one person in heaven said, "Here we feed one another." Can we say that of our families, our neighborhood, our church, our world? If we can say that, then we are not far from the kingdom of heaven. Today the Church invites us to reflect on God's love for the world and to be joyful because of it. God loves each and every one of us, so much so that He gave us His only Son. Today we are invited to say yes to God's love. **God Bless!**

Mass Time Change

Starting March 20th, St. Sebastian will have Saturday evening Mass at 5:00pm. Thank you.

Holy Week Schedule

- o Palm Sunday (Vigil) - St. Sebastian - 5:00pm
- o Palm Sunday - St. Sebastian - 8:30am
- o Palm Sunday - St. Charles - 10:30am
- o Holy Thursday - St. Sebastian - 6:00pm
- o Good Friday - St. Sebastian - 6:00pm
- o Easter Vigil - St. Sebastian - 8:00pm
- o Easter Sunday - St. Sebastian - 8:30am
- o Easter Sunday - St. Charles - 10:30am

Those of you who have signed up for ministries are encouraged to be present early please. Thank you.



Financial Report - March 7, 2021

St. Sebastian- Amount Needed: \$2,938.09 weekly

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| Regular Collection | \$ 3,265.00 + 326.91 |
| Emergency Fund | \$ 345.00 |
| Catholic Relief Services | \$ 20.00 |
| Sick & Infirm Priests | \$ 10.00 |
| Easter Flowers | \$ 205.00 |

Financial Report - March 7, 2021

St. Charles - Amount Needed: \$1,147.46 weekly

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| Regular Collection | \$ 990.00 - 157.46 |
| Emergency Fund | \$ 90.00 |
| Dio of Mandeville | \$ 5.00 |

Mass Schedule

March 7 - 14

Sunday - Fourth Sunday of Lent

Daylight Saving Time Begins

-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian

Brenda Payne

-10:30am - Mass at St. Charles

Souls in Purgatory

Monday - Lenten Weekday

-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian

Wendy LaMar

Tuesday - Lenten Weekday

-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian

Danny Edwards

Wednesday - Lenten Weekday

-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian

Alvin Bickett

-5:30pm - Mass at St. Charles

Conversion of Souls

Thursday - Lenten Weekday

-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian

Pat Bickett

Friday - St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed

Virgin Mary (Solemnity)

-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian

Justin Durbin

Saturday - Lenten Weekday

-4:00pm Confession

-5:00pm - Mass at St. Sebastian

Joe Bickett

Sunday - Fifth Sunday of Lent

-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian

Betty Caraway

-10:30am - Mass at St. Charles

Dwight Beyke

St. Charles - Happy Birthday

Elliot Rhodes - March 15

Prayer List for members of our community:

Melanie Mayes, Jason Evans, Lisa Jackson, Ethan Settle, Jimmy Clayton, Pat Calhoun, Sonny Renfrow, Kimberly Nowak, Todd Tichenor, Kimberly Stiles, Louis & Alice Weise, Callie Hayden, Mary Jewell, Tom Schutte, Evelyn Drury, Bill Abney, Debbie Dunn, and Ben Dunn

Please pray for our Military

MMN1 Andrew Logsdon, SSgt. James (J.P.) Dye, John Randall Zaremba, Major Jack Kaina, Major Bradley Summers, Lance Corporal Marine Joseph Ryan Hunter, Lt. Col. Michael Rezebek. A.B. Phillip Wilson, Specialist 4 Chaz McKay, Sgt. Adam Dickey & Corpsman Aly Franklin

Guidelines for Resuming Parish Gatherings Outside the Liturgy

- Limit the persons in attendance to no more than 25.
- Maintain physical distance of six feet minimum from those not living within the same household.
- Wear face covering over mouth and nose. Based on CDC recommendations, everyone over the age of two must wear a mask for the duration of any event or meeting held on parish property. Those unable to wear a face mask at the event, whether it be due to age (the CDC does not recommend those under the age of two to wear a mask), health condition, or preference, are asked to stay healthy at home.
- Conduct temperature and health checks for each participant.
- Ensure proper, frequent cleaning and sanitation of the gathering space, including restrooms.
- Encourage those at high risk to stay Healthy at Home.
- Maintain a record of all persons attending the event/meeting and their contact information.
- Follow State of Kentucky Healthy at Work Requirements for Restaurants and Bars for any form of food service. A summary follows:
 - o No indoor food or beverage consumption.
 - o Carryout and delivery encouraged.
 - o Outside tables or booths should be placed six (6) feet apart.
 - o Only those living within the same household should sit together.
 - o Use disposable napkins, tablecloths, utensils and condiments. Condiments must be single-use, disposable packages.
 - o If non-disposable linens (such as cloth napkins, tablecloths, wiping cloths) are used, they must be laundered between uses.
- Ensure that gloves are worn by employees/volunteers who clean or handle high-touch areas of the gathering space.
- Encourage volunteers and attendees to frequently wash their hands and/or use hand sanitizer, provided by the event organizer.
- Use appropriate disinfectants to clean frequently touched surfaces and shared equipment.
- Use signage to alert attendees of required occupancy limits, six feet of physical distance and the facial covering requirements.
- Parishes should add a rider to rental contracts specifying that the renter is bound to abide by all government and diocesan restrictions that are in place at the time of the event.

St. Sebastian - Happy Birthday

- Joren Edwards - March 15
- Jude Cooper - March 16
- Liam Cooper - March 16
- Betty Abrams - March 19
- Matthew Hayden - March 20
- Jacob Lebold - March 21

Safe Environment Announcement

The safety of our children is the responsibility of every Christian. Anyone aware of the abuse of a person under the age of eighteen is required by law to report this to the proper state authorities (270) 338-2240; local law enforcement (270) 273-3276; or the Kentucky Child Abuse Hotline (toll-free: 1-877-597- 2331). To report abuse to the diocese, current or past, by anyone acting in the name of the Church (paid or volunteer), call Louanne Payne, Pastoral Assistance Coordinator (English) on the confidential phone line: 270-852-8380, or Susan Montalvo-Gesser/Miguel Quintanilla, Pastoral Assistance Coordinators (Spanish): 270-880-8360. The Diocese of Owensboro's sexual abuse policy is available on the bookshelf in back of the church, in the parish office, and the diocesan website (<https://owensborodiocese.org/safe>).